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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):
REUTERS AMERICA [US/US]; 3 Times Square,
20th Floor, New York, NY 10036 (US).

(72) Inventors; and
(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): BOSE, Subhra
[US/US]; Mohegan Lake, NY (US). SCIMONE, Steve
[US/US]; Massapequa, NY (US). SRIRAMAN, Nallan
[US/US]; Nesconset, NY (US). DUAN, Ziyang [US/US];
Stony Brook, NY (US). BERNSTEIN, Arthur [US/US];
Setauket, NY (US). LEWIS, Philip [US/US]; Stony
Brook, NY (US). GROSU, Radu [US/US]; Rocky Point,
NY (US).

(74) Agent: GLEMBOCKI, Christopher, R.; Banner & Wit-
coff, Ltd., 1001 G. Street, N.W., 11th Floor, Washington,
D.C 2001-4597 (US).

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(54) Title: BUSINESS PROCESS AUTOMATION

(57) Abstract: A system and method by which business processes within and between organizations and/or individuals may be auto-
mated using standards-based, service-oriented business process automation architectures based on XML and Web Services Standards
is described. An execution framework for the business processes is also described. Further aspects include a decomposition method-
ology for deconstructing business process specifications into business flows, business rules and business states. The business flows,
rules and states may be defined in declarative languages and include the interaction, cooperation and coordination between the flow,
rules and state engines, and the execution model for business processes within the framework.

(54) Title: BUSINESS PROCESS AUTOMATION THROUGH THE USE OF WORKFLOW
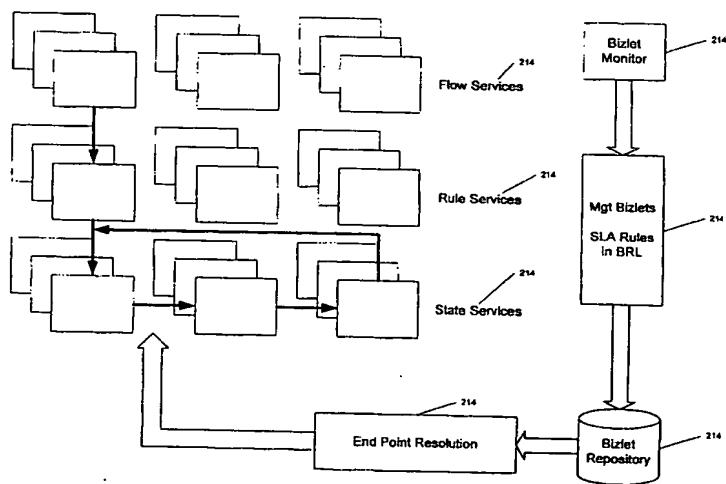
(57) Abstract: A system for business processes within and between organizations and/or individuals may be automated using standards-based, service-oriented business process automation architectures based on XML and Web Services Standards is described. An execution framework for the business processes is also described. Further aspects include a decomposition methodology for deconstructing business process specifications into business flows, business rules and business states. The business flows (Fig 9, #214), rules (Fig 9, #214) and states (Fig 9, #214) may be defined in declarative languages and include the interaction, cooperation and coordination between the flow, rules and state engines, and the execution model for business processes within the framework.

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